

REMARKS

Claim 4 has been amended, and new claims 9 to 11 have been added. Claims 1 to 11 are pending in the application, as amended.

Claim 4 has been amended for the sake of improved clarity, and to specify that the primary light source has “a spectral range of from about 580 nm to about 1080 nm”, and that the secondary spectral output is complementary to the primary spectral output. Support for the amendments made to claim 4 is provided, for example, at page 4, lines 15-16 and page 8, lines 4-18 of the specification, and by Figure 2.

New claims 9-11 are based on claims 1-3, and are further supported at page 1, line 29 to page 2, line 10, and page 8, lines 4-18 of the specification.

Claim Rejections- 35 USC 102


Examiner has rejected claims 4-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Miller et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,373,568). Miller et al. discloses a spectral illuminator comprising a plurality of LED lamps producing light of wavelengths that span a spectral range of interest (column 4, lines 41-42; Fig. 1). Miller et al. further discloses that the LED lamps of the spectral illuminator have a spectral width of less than 35 nm (see, for example, column 5, lines 43-54), and that the illuminator can include broad-band LED sources (column 7, line 64-66). Miller et al. does not, however, particularly suggest or disclose the light source, as presently claimed in amended claims 4-8, which comprises a primary light source having a spectral range of from about 580 nm to about 1080 nm, and one, or more than one secondary light source having a spectral output complementary to the spectral output of the primary light source. Claims 4-8 are therefore novel and inventive over Miller et al. Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection against these claims.

Applicant notes that claims 1-3 have been allowed by Examiner.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request further examination and allowance of the application.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Lawrence D. Maxwell


5-6-03
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APPLICATION NO. 10/021,307
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Respectfully submitted,

NEEDLE & ROSENBERG, P.C.

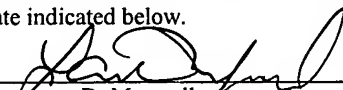


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